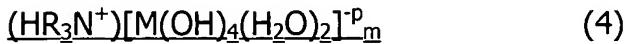
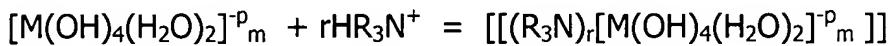


## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

At the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 5 and ending with equation (4) at page 11, line 21 (paragraph 0075 of the USPTO printed application), please amend as follows:

where "m" is the number of trivalent metal ions trapped in the colloid and "q" the number of negative charges present on the colloidal particle. Only a few negative charges are expected per colloidal particle (i.e.  $m >> q$ ). Increasing pH further, and/or increasing the total metal ion concentration further, enhances the fraction of dissolved contaminant M present as these colloids and the total negative charge per colloidal particle, q. It is believed that the anion extractant then ion pairs with the negative charges on these colloids under anion extraction conditions, which gives rise to colloidal particles "coated" with hydrophobic extractant molecules. Coated as such, and with their negative charges cancelled by the positive charge of the adsorbed cationic extractant molecules, results in extractable species, effectively removing cations from the aqueous phase into the extraction solution phase. In reaction form this is illustrated as follows,



At the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 6 and ending with the equation at page 12, line 16 (paragraph 0079 of the USPTO printed application), please amend as follows:

The extractant is acidified to protonate the amine in a suitable mixing vessel. Typically, the tip speed of the mixer is about 1.5 – about 7.5 m/sec, preferably about 3 to about 5 m/sec, and a residence time of 0.1 to 10 min, preferably about 1

to 2 minutes, suitable to extract the metals without emulsifying the organics. Too short a time gives inadequate mixing and contact and extraction while too long a time gives problems with emulsification and phase separation. The negatively charged anions ion-pair with the positively charged (i.e., protonated) amine. For example, the equation below is provided for the case where the anion is bichromate:

